

6. Cancelled

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15. (New) A rotor assembly comprising;

a rotor forging including a rotor body having pole faces;

a winding module including a plurality of field windings positioned adjacent the pole faces and a winding insulator disposed, respectively, between each pair of successive field windings, respectively; and

a winding block disposed in engagement with the winding module; said winding block configured to be radially shifted to a final reference position relative to said winding module to induce pre-stress in the winding module when said rotor assembly rotates about its rated spin speed;

wherein said winding block removable from said final reference position is adapted to be self-locked at said final reference position to maintain said pre-stress induced in said winding module when said rotor assembly spin speed is altered to a second speed.

16. (New) A rotor assembly according to claim 15, wherein said winding block comprises at least one tapered surface engaging said winding module, said tapered surface configured to arrest further radial movement of said winding block from said final reference position relative to the winding module when said rotor assembly spin speed is altered to a second speed.

17. (New) A rotor assembly according to claim 15, wherein said winding block comprises a flexible insulating material.

18. (New) A multi pole electric machine rotor assembly comprising;

a rotor forging including a rotor body having poles directed along a direct axis with pole faces extending generally perpendicularly to a direct axis, and fins extending along a quadrature axis;

a winding module including a plurality of field windings positioned in spaces between said pole faces and said fins, and a winding insulator disposed between each successive pair of said field windings, respectively; and

a winding block disposed between the winding module and a corresponding one of said fins in each respective one of said spaces between said pole faces and said fins; said winding block configured to be radially shifted to a final reference position relative to said winding module to induce pre-stress in the winding module when said rotor assembly rotates about its rated spin speed;

wherein said winding block removable from said final reference position is adapted to be self-locked at said final reference position to maintain said pre-stress induced in said winding module when said rotor assembly spin speed is altered to a second speed.

19. (New) A rotor assembly according to claim 18, wherein said winding block comprises at least one tapered surface engaging said winding module, said tapered

surface configured to arrest further radial movement of said winding block from said final reference position relative to the winding module when said rotor assembly spin speed is altered to a second speed.

20. (New) A rotor assembly according to claim 18, wherein said winding block comprises a flexible insulating material.